

REPRODUCTION OF

MINUTES

OF THE

*Burning Spring*  
*Association*

OF

UNITED BAPTISTS

— HELD AT THE —

Middle Fork Meeting House

*On the Little Sandy, in Morgan County, Ky., on the  
Second Saturday and the Two Following  
Days in October in the Year of Our Lord,*

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Held at the MIDDLE FORK MEETING-HOUSE, on Little Sandy, in Morgan County, Ky., on the second Saturday and the two following days in October, in the year of our Lord, 1837

Elder William Coffee preached the Introductory Sermon from the latter part of the 25th verse of the 1st chapter of 1st Peter.—“And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto us.”

Letters from the different Churches were then read, and their Messengers names enrolled according to the following table:

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS' NAMES	Rec'd by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restored	Disin'd by Letter	Excluded	Dead	Total Number
South Fork ....	Wm. Lykins, Matthew Adams Richard Ratliff, John Barker .....	4	3	0	2	0	4	87
Low Gap .....	Wm. Coffee, Daniel Read, Moses and Reuben Howard, Jas McGuire	1	0	0	0	0	3	68
Burning Spring	Elijah Prater, Wallace Bailey, Mason Williams, Lewis Power, B. Caudill	5	0	0	0	0	1	58
Union .....	S. P. Simer, Alexander Pelfry, William Ramey, James Davis .....	8	4	0	0	0	1	87
Bethel .....	Lewis Skaggs, John Lemaster, Francis Lematser, Henry Jane .....	0	0	0	2	0	1	25
Big Blain .....	Elias Keezee, Jas. Webb, Jno. Boggs, William Holbrook .....	1	3	0	0	0	0	53
Georges Creek .	Jessie Price, Reubin Vanhoose, John Spencer, Charles Spencer .....	2	1	2	2	5	0	50
Middle Fork ...	Isaac Wilbern, James Henson, John Adkins, John Lewis .....	29	7	1	18	0	0	42
Open Fork Point	Henry Dickson .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Zion .....	Peter Lykins, Caleb Williams, David Lykins .....	3	0	0	0	0	0	20
Rockcastle .....	No Letter or Messenger .....							
Silver Creek ...	Thomas Kirk, Francis Flinty .....	6	0	1	2	1	0	76
Stillwater .....	John Rose, W. Murphy, Washington Swango .....	2	0	0	0	0	0	32
Whole Numbers .....		61	18	4	26	6	10	604

The Association then chose Elder WILLIAM COFFEE, Moderator, and WILLIAM LYKINS, Clerk.

The Church on the Laurel Fork on the Little Sandy, sent a letter to join this Association which was read and referred to the Committee of Arrangements. The Church on Still Water applied for admittance into this Association, which was received and their messengers invited to seats, as you will see in the annexed table.—The corresponding letter from the New Salem Association was read, received and their messengers invited to seats.

The Circular letter called for, read and referred to the Committee of Arrangements.

Brother James Webb appointed to write a corresponding letter to the New Salem Association.

Brethren William Salisbury, William Lykins and Thomas Kirk, were appointed to preach to-morrow, it being Sunday.

A Committee of Arrangements appointed, consisting of Brethren Wallace Bailey, Elijah Prater, Lewis Powers, James Webb with the Moderator and Clerk, to arrange the business of this Association, then adjourned till Monday Morning, at 10 o'clock.

Monday morning the Association met agreeably to adjournment; the Committee of Arrangements made the following report and were discharged.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE—Circular letter, Corresponding letter to New Salem Association, and who shall bear it.

Query from the Burning Spring Church—Shall one ordained preacher constitute and ordain preachers? or shall it take two or more? The Big Blain Church complains of beginning distress on account of some circumstances.—What shall be done for the relief of the Blain Church? Shall we receive the Laurel Fork Church or not? Who shall write a Circular Letter for next Association? Where shall our next Association be held? Who shall preach the introductory sermon at our next Association? Who shall superintend the printing of the Minutes and to distributing the same? The Association then proceeded to take up the business in order. The Circular Letter read, received and ordered to be printed with the Minutes.

The Corresponding Letter to the New Salem Association brought forward, read, received, and Brethren Wallace Bailey, Elijah Bayes, Benjamin Caudill, Mason Williams, William Coffee and Alexander Pelfry, to bear the same to New Salem Association. In answer to the above query we advise that it require two, or more.

Therefore, the Association consider Brother Isaac Wilburn's ordination to be illegal, and the Association advises, that Brethren, Elder Benjamin Caudill and Elder Wallace Bailey, attend to his ordination at this time, which was done.

After the answer to the above query the Big Blain Church profess to be satisfied; therefore that business is dismissed. The Association advises, that the Laurel Fork Church be not received on account of not being legally constituted. Brother William Lykins be appointed to write a Circular Letter for next Association.

This Association taking into consideration the bounds of their Church-



es, and the distance being so great that they do unanimously and friendly agree, to form another Association on the waters of Big Sandy and to keep up a friendly correspondence with each other and that the Churches of Union, Bethel, Open Fork of Paint, Georges Creek, Rockcastle and Silver Creek, compose that Association, and that they send letters and delegates to attend at the Union meeting in Floyd County, Ky., on the second Saturday in April, to enter into their constitution and make their necessary arrangement for that Association, and that Brethren William Coffee, Benjamin Caudill, Wallace Bailey and Elijah Prater, attend there and then to assist them in their business; and that the South Fork Low Gap, Burning Spring, Middle Fork, Little Sandy, Zion, Still Water yet compose the Burning Spring Association.

Our next Association for Burning Spring, will be held at Zion Church meeting house, Morgan County, Ky., on the Friday before the second Saturday in October, and the two following days in the year of our Lord 1838. Brother William Lykins to preach the introductory sermon at our next Association in case of a failure, Brother Wallace Bailey and Brother Mark Trimble to superintend the printing of the Minutes and distributing the same. The Association then adjourned till the Friday before the second Saturday in October, in the year of our Lord, 1838. Signed by order of the Association.

WILLIAM COFFEE, Moderator

WILLIAM LYKINS, Clerk.

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### CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear Brethren and Sisters:—The great Shepherd of the Flock has yet preserved a number of us till another Association has nearly come to a close. We have lived on His bounty and under His protecting hand, and having been permitted to meet together in another Association once more on the shores of Time. We ought to pray to God that He would enable us to go through the business that comes before us in peace and good fellowship. We wish to thank the Giver of all good for His guardian care over us, and especially when we hear of the dissensions in the Christian world, even amongst those of our own name, who are baptised; but we rejoice to hear of the little flock contending for the Faith and for the Gospel—for in this Gospel we hear Him saying, “fear not little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give to you the Kingdom;” and in the words of our Savior, “I thank Thee, O, Father! Lord of Heaven and Earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes—even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Thy sight!” Let us admire the condescending goodness of God toward us, and let us say that the whole creation, whether rich or poor, are sinners in the sight of God, and stand equally in need of the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ, but while the Gospel in its purity may be preached, and thoughtless assemblies may hear with all attention—while the word of God may come with demonstration of the spirit and the power to the heart of whom He will and fix their attention to His infinite importance. To what can we ascribe this difference but to the free grace of Him who

has hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hath revealed them unto babes, and hath chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom which He hath prepared for those who love Him. To display the condescension of this grace the Apostles tell us, that God hath chosen the weak things of this world, to confound the things that are mighty, for the express purpose that no flesh should glory in the Lord. This is very different from the general vices of men; there is no inclination in man in nature, to go about to establish a righteousness of their own art submitting to the righteousness of the Lord, while others endeavor to make their hearts better, and so prepare them for the reception of Christ—while the truly converted soul has no idea of such a way of salvation, but will say, I have nothing to say for myself, but just that I am the chief of sinners; the operation of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ shed abroad in the heart, by the Holy Spirit. This always produces love, and this is shown obedience to the will of God. Now these are willing to say; salvation is of the Lord, and that He came into the world to save sinners by His righteousness, and being God and man, He is able to save to the utmost, all that will come unto God by Him. O, may the Holy Spirit enable us to look unto God, who is the Author and Finished of faith. O brethren and sisters! if your salvation is a love of God, and your life is hid with Christ in God, O happy state! to have God for father—Christ for our brother—the Holy Ghost for our comforter—Death for our friend—Heaven our home, and happy Eternity before us of peace and joy. Brethren, think of these things for ourselves, and our prayer is, that we all may be directed by the unerring hand of Israel's God, till we shall meet, to part no more. Farewell.

WILLIAM COFFEE, Moderator.

WILLIAM LYKINS, Clerk.